

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Aspects of the invention relate to a system for reducing relative movement between the outer shroud of a compressor diaphragm and the compressor cylinder of a turbine engine, thereby minimizing the wearing of these parts. Embodiments of the invention include a system for applying an axial preload on the outer shroud of a compressor diaphragm, preferably in the same direction as the gas load in the compressor. The system can be installed at or near the horizontal joint such that the axial preload can be applied substantially at the horizontal joint, which is the location of the largest relative movement. In one embodiment, the axial preload system can include a two-piece wedge block and pin. As the pin is driven between the two wedge blocks, the force applied to the pin can be converted to an axial load by the spreading apart of the two wedge block sections.